

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 15 are now pending in this application. Applicant has amended claim 4 to correct a minor informality, namely lack of antecedent basis. Claim 4 has been specifically amended to correct the element from "movement transmission" to "movement transmission device". In the pending Office Action dated November 24, 2003, the Office Action states that a restriction is required.

The Office has stated that a requirement of restriction is required with respect to claims 1 through 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 121. The Office states that the application has claims directed to two distinct inventions. Invention I is drawn to an apparatus as claimed in claims 1 through 11. Invention I is classified in class 83, subclass 452. Invention II is drawn to a method as claimed in claims 12 through 15. Invention II is classified in class 83, subclass 13.

The Action requires that inventions I and II are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classifications. Accordingly, the Office states that the applicant is required to elect an invention for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.143, applicant hereby elects, with traverse, invention I, namely claims 1 through 11. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute non-elected claims

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12 through 15 in the future as a possible continuation patent application.

However, claims 12 through 15 should not be subject to any restriction and instead should be examined together with claims 1 through 11. Applicant states that claims to be restricted to different inventions must have separate classifications in the art. See MPEP Section 808.02. Both inventions I and II or claims 1 through 11 and 12 through 15, respectively are admitted by the Office as being in the same classifications in the art or class 83. Thus, claims 1 through 11 and 12 through 15 do not have separate classifications, but instead merely have different subclasses. Moreover, each does not have such distinct subject matter to warrant a separate field of search.

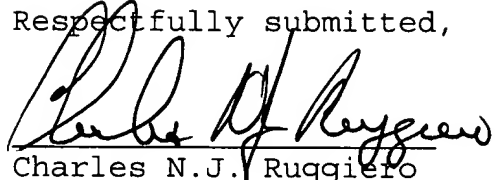
Instead, both claims 1 through 11 and 12 through 15 are both to be searched in class 83, as admitted by the Office. Claims 12 through 15 should be included and examined with claims 1 through 11 because these embodiments are within the same field of search of class 83. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction requirement are requested.

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Allowance of claims 1 through 11 is earnestly solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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